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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of activating a computer by supplying power to put the computer into an active state, comprising the steps of:

registering a password as a registered password;

keeping the computer into a provisional state before the power is supplied to main body operation units in the computer;

performing user authentication in the provisional state by comparing and checking an input password with the registered password; and

starting the supply of power to the main body operation units on detecting coincidence between the input password and the registered password.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

suspending the supply of power to the main body operation units on detecting incoincidence between the input password and the registered password.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the password is compared and checked within a predetermined period of time.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein when the password consists of more than one-digit symbol, the input password is compared and checked with the registered password digit by digit.

5. A computer apparatus for supplying power to main body operation units as a result of authentication performed by comparing and checking an input password with a registered password, comprising:

storage means for storing the registered password;

power supplying means for supplying power to the main body operation units in the computer; and

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control means for controlling said power supplying means to start power supply to the main body operation units when the input password input is matched with the registered password, and controlling said power supplying means to suspend power supply to the main body operation units when the input password is not matched with the registered password.

6. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said control means controls said power supplying means to start or suspend power supply to the main body operation units including a display, a central processing unit and a memory.

7. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said power supplying means includes an AC-DC converting power supply for conversion of DC from AC, a battery and a DC stabilizing circuit, whereby said control means controls said DC stabilizing circuit to supply DC power to the main body operation units.

8. A program storage medium storing thereon a program executed by a computer, the program comprising the processing steps of:

registering a password as a registered password;
keeping the computer into a provisional state before the power is supplied to main body operation units in the computer;

performing user authentication in the provisional state by comparing and checking an input password with the registered password; and

starting the supply of power to the main body operation units on detecting coincidence between the input password and the registered password.

9. The program storage medium according to claim 8, further comprising the step of:

suspending the supply of power to the main body operation units on detecting incoincidence between the input password and the registered password.

10. The program storage medium according to claim 8, wherein said program storage medium stores a program for letting the computer further execute a processing step of comparing and checking the passwords within a fixed period of time, and a processing step of comparing and checking the passwords on a digit basis when each password consists of more than one-digit symbol.

11. A program for use in being executed by a computer, the program comprising the steps of:

registering a password as a registered password;

keeping the computer into a provisional state before the power is supplied to main body operation units in the computer;

performing user authentication in the provisional state by comparing and checking an input password with the registered password; and

starting the supply of power to the main body operation units by changing the provisional state on detecting coincidence between the input password and the registered password.

12. The program storage medium according to claim 11, further comprising the step of:

suspending the supply of power to the main body operation units on detecting incoincidence between the input password and the registered password.

13. A computer apparatus for supplying power to main body operation units as a result of authentication performed by comparing and checking an input password with a registered password, comprising:

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storage means for storing the registered password;

power supplying means for supplying power to the main body operation units in the computer; and

control means for controlling said power supplying means to put the power supplying means into a provisional state in which the power is not supplied to all the main body operation units in the computer before the authentication is performed.

14. The computer apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the control means executes the authentication in the provisional state.